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TIMBER TALK

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President's Message

Happy New Year!

Your Timber Talk has a new look, which may be altered as I learn to navigate the features of Word. Timber Talk was previously put together using Publisher, which never quite agreed with my own operating system. I will spare you the details but overtime I hope to produce an as-interesting-as ever publication, in a bit less time and less abuse on my blood pressure!

Have you received your woods for 2020? If not, please let us know. A huge thank you to Ross Kingdon, whose workload of sending the woods has increased significantly, due to the pandemic. Ross usually distribute the woods personally to a significant portion of our membership, which could not be done this year.

This month we welcome Jamie Langford, from Manitoba and Andre Paradis, from Quebec. We are happy to report that Norm Belsten, our cataloger, and Richard Blaylock, from Utah, are back at home after their health scares but we are also sad to have lost Russ Brown, from Southern Ontario, long time member and Governor of our Association.

In this issue you will find a first glimpse at our finished Thank You wood in a selection of colors, a nostalgic look at Braebrook Cleaners, an always interesting Chips…, the latest available update on Antlers and Ivory Woods and an interesting article on Jesters. Serious Order, or not so serious?

And, as usual at this time of the year, a membership renewal form, on page 10.

Please let me know what you think of our new look. I will consider all suggestions that will improve your reading enjoyment

On behalf of the Board of Directors, please accept our best wishes to you and to your family for 2021.

France

Featured Wood of the Month

This month's free wood is a combination of the extras of three Christmas woods, from the past, all issued by Lou &Yvonne Vesh. Lou has personally manufactured these and many, many other woods for both he and Yvonne as well as for several other people, over the years. While some of our members may very well have these beautiful woods in their collection, many will not. These three Christmas themed woods are combined so that each member can receive one, all chosen at random.

They are listed in our catalogue under West Guilford Ontario as:
5944 - 068 - 1995 - Blue,Red / Green,Red - 38mm
5944 - 133 - 2008 - Red,Silver,Gold / Green,Red,Black - 38mm
5944 - 138 - 2010 - Red / Red,Green,Gold - 38mm

Ross

Timber Talk's "Thank You Reward Program"

Thank you for your Contribution to Timber Talk CAWMC
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Here is a picture of some of the reward woods (four out of 8 colors) that will be given to our contributors. To qualify articles should be at least 250 words in length, sent in MS Word format, or handwritten, accompanied by images if possible. Publication of the articles will be at the discretion of the editor. The editor of TT reserves the right to edit and publish the article partially or in its entirety. The woods will be issued in extremely limited quantities (5-25). Please submit your articles to the editor at the address on front page.

Braebrook Cleaners of Pointe Claire, Quebec

By Barry Uman

This year the last remnants of the Braebrook Cleaners on Breabrook and Hastings avenues in Pointe Claire, Quebec was demolished to make way for a new housing project. It was located in the Lakeview Shopping Center which later was known as the Walton Shopping Plaza. This strip mall had about a half dozen stores which included a restaurant, small grocery store, a drycleaner, a caterer, etc. It lay dormant for many years and became an eye sore. At one time there were 2 other branches of the Braebrook Cleaners and they were in Beaconsfield, Quebec at the Beaconsfield Blvd. Plaza and in Kirkland, Quebec at the Woolco Shopping Centre.

Braebrook Cleaners often advertised in the local paper, The Chronicle" and in the "Montreal Gazette". This ad gives three phone numbers for the three branches. Some of these ads were good for discounts for dry cleaning. They also issued a rare wooden nickel good for 5 cents. This token is 38.1 mm in diameter. The obverse is in black print and is good for use in Pointe Claire for one garment. The reverse is in brown and it pictures a buffalo and is called a "Wacky Wooden Nickel". It is typical of the woods made in the U.S.A. There is very little information available about this rare wood, but it is listed as number 4720-005 in Norm Belsten's wooden money catalogue.

Picture provided by Barry Uman

Picture reproduced from catalogue

Chips from the Woodpile …. *By Dave Gillespie*

Let's start by our usual end:

Answer to the Chips Question from December 2020

Q. A large wood was issued for a C.N.A. with "Good for one Drink" stamped on it. Where was the C.N.A. held and in what year?

A. Ottawa, Ontario in 1967 – wood # 5675-006

The Canadian Numismatic Annual Convention has been held in Quebec City on a couple of occasions, 1989 and 2001. Jennifer's Bed & Breakfast is in the city and issued a wooden nickel back in 1991, in fact two woods, to advertise the business. The first with an incorrect telephone number and the second issue correcting the number and they are both listed in the catalogue. Maybe you will look for the B. & B. on your next visit to Quebec.

Stedman's Department Store issued a wooden token offering a 10% discount at either the Haliburton or Minden locations. Both stores had the same owner, and the tokens were passed out during a local parade back in 1982. The woods are listed under both municipalities, but Lou Vesh wrote in a 1991 article that as woods were redeemed at the Minden store they were marked with an "M" in black ink. Apparently, this was done to assess the effectiveness of the promotion and it is not known if the marked woods were re-distributed. It was reported that a fire at the Haliburton store in 1986 destroyed the building and its contents and most likely the redeemed woods. Do any collectors have the redeemed wood in their collection?

Minden claims recognition to another wooden nickel, if you check your catalogue, for the Agnes Jamieson Gallery. Lou Vesh wrote an article about Dr. Agnes Jamieson and I must say that in reviewing the first 15 years of Timber Talk issues a LARGE "Thank You" needs to go out to Lou for his many contributions, not only for his numerous articles but as a past Editor and a Past President of the association. Dr. Jamieson graduated from the University of Toronto Medical School and in 1935 took over a practice in the Minden/Haliburton area. She was truly a pioneer doctor, having made house calls in conditions unheard of today. In the winter, she travelled by horse drawn cutter to see patients, hence the sled shown on the wooden nickel. In 1942 Dr. Jamieson was named the first woman coroner in the Province of Ontario. She was also very interested in art and was herself an accomplished artist. She played a prominent role in establishing the gallery and for this, her fellow workers named the gallery in her honour. Dr. Agnes Jamieson died on January 15th, 1983 at the age of seventy-five years.

The picture of a wood, a Canadian 5 cents Beaver and the words "Genuine Wooden Nickel" on the obverse appeared in Timber Talk in December of 1991. Alf Wrigley purchased it as a souvenir. On the reverse was a magnet glued to the wood. Is this a wooden nickel? It says so on the face or is it a souvenir magnet? I'll let you decide!

Not many of our newer members and collectors will have had the pleasure of seeing the collection of Whooping Crane woods produced by Glen Littrell of Corpus Christi, Texas. For ten consecutive years, starting in 1979 Glen worked on designs and selected one hundred quality blanks each year to be hand sanded. The woods were painted and sanded again through several coats of varnish. Thirteen different woods were made in all. An article listing and picturing these woods came out in February of 1992 and if you get a chance please ask a member of your local coin club to bring some of these woods out to a meeting. They will become a great topic of discussion and hopefully one or more of your members will have known or at least met Glen Littrell.

Through perusal of issues of Timber Talk of the time, I see that the Bluenose and Bluenose II have appeared on stamps, coins, medals, tokens and woods. To name a few of the coins we would have to include the 1963 Canadian dime, the 1756 Spanish Silver Coin (Doubloon), the 1967 Canadian Centennial Dime, the 1981 Canadian Dollar, the 1867-1967 Canadian Silver Dollar, the 1987 Canadian Loon Dollar and the list goes on. How many wooden coins do you have in your collection showing the Bluenose or Bluenose II?

Looking back, it appears that I skipped over some interesting facts relating to the 1988 C.N.A. The convention that year was held in Charlottetown, P.E.I. and the Host Committee arranged for Nancy Hall-Chapman, Regional Director (Canada) for the Love Token Society to provide members and guests with a slide show presentation entitled "The Romance of Love Tokens". Nancy also provided a brief history of love tokens and covered the characteristics of the designs and formats along with a display of some of her collection.

The Host Committee also arranged for the Royal Bank of Canada to be present and display its Currency Collection at a branch just minutes from the Convention site. The collection dates back to 1792 when Canada Bank issued its first notes and flows through pre-Confederation until the last Royal Bank of Canada paper currency was issued in 1943. Two great reasons to have made the trip to Charlottetown, P.E.I. and I hope that you were there.

AND now for another quiz question:

> *What C.A.W.M.C. member used wooden money to promote his candidacy running for Counsel in 1977?*

Til next time …… Let the Chips lie where they fall. Dave Gillespie

Antlers and Ivory Woods — Latest Updates by David "Rusty" Phillips

Kathy Fish owner and operator of the Antlers and Ivory Company just recently sent me the latest, and up to this year's (2019) woods for the three series Antlers and Ivory puts out. Kathy is a super contact for me in my ongoing quest for "new" Alaskan woods. Thank you Kathy!

All eight woods displayed here are the usual 1-½"/38mm in size, with brown lettering and design incused into natural light-coloured wood. For explanation of all three series, see the October 2012 and April 2015 issues of *Timber Talk*. Two **Brag** woods for 2019:

ALASKAN WOODEN NICKEL
2019
ANTLERS AND IVORY 907-376-5509
Changed Barrows' name back to the original name of Utqiagvik 12-1-2018
ALASKAN WOODEN NICKEL
2019
ANTLERS AND IVORY 907-376-5509
Yukon River In Alaska is 1400 miles

Three Rondy Winner woods and three Iditarod Winner woods for 2017, 2018 and 2019

Find Ivory and Antlers on: website https://www.akcraftwork.com/ and Facebook https://www.facebook.com/antlersandivory/

My SINCERE THANKS to Kathy for keeping me up to date for all these three series.
Very much appreciated!

The Jester Does Jest, A Nickel Is Thirteen Cents

by Judy Blackman, CAWMC Life Member, FONA, KStE

Founded in 1911, the Royal Order of Jesters functions in connection with Freemasonry and the Shriners. The organization exists for the encouragement of laughter and fun in leisure time, as evidenced by the motto “Mirth is King.” The Royal Order of Jesters draws its name from the licensed court fools in medieval times known as jesters, who not only amused the patrons whom they served, but also assisted in intellectual and cultural development. When the founding members gathered in Hawaii on February 20, 1911, they chose the name of the Royal Order of Jesters to build upon this history and to set the tone for the organization. Led by Noble A.M. Ellison, the original members, known as a cast, consisted of 13 Shriners headed to Aloha Temple on a pilgrimage. The meeting took place in the Captain's Office aboard the S.S. Wilhelmina after a Testimonial Banquet hosted by the ship's captain and officers. Later, at another meeting in 1917, the organization received its current framework, which consists of the Royal Director and 13 other titles that include the Royal Heavy Man, the Royal Serio Comic, the Royal Tragedian, the Royal Impresario, the Royal Light Comedian, the Royal Leading Lady, the Royal Soubrette, the Royal Property Man, and the Royal Constable. All members, referred to as Jesters, join the organization *only upon invitation*, presuming *good-standing membership in the Shriners*. In addition to the brotherhood aspects of the organization, the International Royal Order of Jesters maintains a museum in Indiana where it showcases historical articles. These range from items associated with the history of the order itself to pieces related to the work of humorists from the past, including William Shakespeare.

Many of us have witnessed the good deeds performed by the Freemasons and Shriners and yes, the Royal Order of Jesters here in Canada. In Toronto alone, there are four courts of the Royal Order of Jesters, and many more across Canada. The Royal Order of Jesters (as with the other two groups) have online stores selling numerous branded merchandise; however, none that I could find, are selling wooden nickels. I

did find where somebody issued a wooden nickel for an event held in Miami in 1984. It is my belief that this 1975 Toronto wooden nickel below was sponsored by an individual member of the Royal Order of Jesters Court 83 Toronto, as opposed to it being an official issue by the organization. This 38 mm wood (listed in Norm Belsten’s catalogue as 5900-218) was issued in 1975 with both sides in black ink, and the quantity produced is unknown, and this wood has a rarity rating 4. The obverse is weird, as it reads “ONE WOODEN NICKEL” but then at the bottom, it says “13¢”! The reverse reads “ROYAL ORDER OF JESTERS/TORONTO 1975”. This metal token was issued by Court 56 in London (Ontario) and gives you a better view of the image portrayed on the 1975 Toronto wooden token.

These are three pins from Toronto Court 83, and the far right one is from 1989 for the Director of the court.

We do know the Royal Order of Jesters is a subdivision of the Shriners, and we know the Shriners Imperial Council Session was held in Toronto in 1975. So, likely, the 1975 Toronto wood was made for distribution at this event.

The Foreign Corner… Woods of the World by Vic Agha

Curupay. I didn't know what curupay ("ker-oh-pay") was until I accidentally came across this medal last year, and I only know as much because it states this on the medal itself. Curupay is relatively widespread through South America and is regularly harvested for its wood.

This particular medal commemorates the centennial of Argentinian independence and was issued in 1910. In trying to find more information I came across this site, which was called "the" definitive site on Argentina medals. Though they list over 6,000 medals, this particular one isn't among them.

Maple. Now really, none of you need to be introduced to maple wood. The most easily obtained maple woods by far would be those issued for the Maple Syrup Festival in Ontario.

You may be less familiar with this one, though. In 2005, the Democratic Republic of the Congo issued what may very well have been the first "official" coin made of wood, and yes, it's a maple wood coin. The mintage was 2,000. A few years ago, these were relatively cheap and common. They appear to be a fair bit scarcer (read: more expensive) now, though still easy enough to get.

Passionate, you say? by André Paradis

For as long as I can remember, I have accumulated treasures in the drawers of my old desk. To afford my collections I had to pick up empty bottles on the roadsides and rush to the general store to collect the money from the bottles in order to buy hockey cards, match boxes, bottle caps of pop… And yes, I drank the pop, I kept the capsules and I sold the empty bottle… then I returned to the road with my wheelbarrow. I must have been between 10 and 12 years old.

When I turned 13, everyone was talking about the Montreal Olympics. What a beautiful summer that was promised to us! The year 1976 was going to change my life for another reason.

I don't know about you, but for me, at that time, opening a new box of cereal was an event you shouldn't miss. What does a box of cereal do in my story? Be patient, it's coming. To mark the participation of many countries in the Olympic meeting, the Kellogg company decided to add the banknotes of these countries in the boxes of Corn Flakes cereal, in order to make their currency known. I was fortunate enough to find a note from China that I still have in my possession 45 years later. A new passion was born.

It's been a long time since I left matchboxes, hockey cards, bottle caps and many other equally wacky collections to devote myself to money. In my early days, I corresponded with foreigners to obtain notes from other countries, Canadian banknotes being inaccessible due to my lack (read absence) of funds. In 1976, the minimum wage was $ 4 for a worker and $ 3.25 for a student. When I was 13, I was making $ 1 a day when I was lucky enough to work on a farm. We must not forget that there was the Montreal Olympics to watch on television. No time to go to work.

The year 2021 is upon us. I promised myself, sometime ago, to underline my passion as a billetophile (Canadian banknotes), medalist and jetonophile (medals, metal or wooden tokens for Expo67 and the centenary of the Confederation of Canada in 1967). I am proud to recognize all the work done to perpetuate the memories of our past, through the issuance of a wooden token. Only 50 tokens were issued. The token represents the essence of my passion for coins. The large rim protects the relief of the logos and the interior characters. With a diameter of 50 mm, the tokens are pyrographed with a laser. The relief is light beige, the center, engraved and encaved, is a bit darker. Sincere thanks to Mr. Claude Bernard of GraphX of Québec, for his professionalism in the realization of these tokens.

MÉDAILLISTE - ANDRÉ PARADIS - JETONOPHILE - BILLETOPHILE
Fier collectionneur depuis 45 ans
1976-2021
EXPO - TERRE DES HOMMES - CENTENAIRE CONFÉDÉRATION
1967

The tokens will be distributed on request only. They are available at cost price of $ 3 each plus $ 2 for shipping costs, if required.

Contact me at my email:
pa.andre.pa@hotmail.fr

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U.S. Resident $10.00 / Youth (16 years of age and under) $5.00

U.S. Funds International Resident (outside Canada and United States) $20.00 Canadian Funds

Surname: _____ First Name: _____ Fee: _____

Surname: _____ First Name: _____ Fee: _____

Mailing address: _____ (street, unit, etc.)

City / Town: _____ Province / State / Other: _____

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MAIL TO:CAWMC c/o ***Mr. Al Munro, P.O. Box 2643, Station M, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 3C1, Canada***

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